

Reds Convict 2 'Spy' Tourists

MOSCOW, Oct. 16 (UPI)—Two American tourists, expelled from Russia last week, had been arrested as spies and one of them was convicted and sentenced to jail after the other turned state's evidence.

The Soviet Union said today. Tass said Bennett was a prosecution witness and "denounced Kaminsky's activities."

A statement by Tass News Agency disclosed details of the mysterious case of Mark I. Kaminsky of Jefferson Township, Mich., and Harvey C. Bennett of Bath, Maine, who vanished two months ago while touring the Soviet Union. Their expulsion was disclosed Friday after several inquiries by the U. S. Embassy.

News dispatches said the trial was conducted in Kiev in the Ukraine by the Kiev Military District Court. Kaminsky was accused of having "coded notes" about troops, heavy industries, communications and military camps, the paper said.

Tass said a formal protest has been lodged with the U. S. Embassy on grounds the United States was using "tourist trips of American citizens in the U. S. S. R. for espionage purposes."

Kaminsky was sentenced to seven years imprisonment on his "confession" and convicted on the same Article 2 of criminal law used to convict U-2 pilot Francis G. Powers.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet commuted the sentence to deportation of Kaminsky "taking into consideration his sincere confession and repentance," Tass said.

Present whereabouts of Kaminsky and Bennett were not known. Tass did not disclose whether any charges were filed against Bennett.

It said Kaminsky, 32, used a camera and took notes "for intelligence purposes." Bennett, 34, was quoted by Tass as saying Kaminsky's activities were "incompatible with tourism."

Kaminsky pleaded guilty both at a procedural hearing and at his court-martial, Tass said.

Kaminsky allegedly had in his possession "photographic films, notebooks with entries and other objects proving he was collecting intelligence data on Soviet territory."



United Press International

MARK I. KAMINSKY
... expelled by Russia

CPYRGHT

CPYRGHT